



## Introduction

*Peter preaches to a Roman centurion and his household (v 34).*

*Cornelius is told in a vision to send for Peter to hear his message.*



## Questions

1. What does the record tell us about the character of Cornelius?
2. What is Peter's conclusion after Cornelius tells him why he sent for him?
3. What finally convinced Peter that he should baptise these Gentiles?

## Summary Points

- **v 1 to 8** Cornelius, a Roman soldier who believes in and serves God, is told by an angel to send men from Caesarea to Joppa to fetch Peter (see map)
- **v 9 to 16** As the men from Cornelius approach Joppa, Peter has a vision. He sees all kinds of animals which he is invited to kill and eat. After he declines because the animals are unclean, he is told not to regard as unclean what God has cleansed
- **v 17 to 24** Peter is told to go with the men who have arrived. He then goes to the house of Cornelius who is waiting for Peter
- **v 25 to 33** Peter explains that the vision he had was telling him that he should no longer regard non-Jews as unclean. Cornelius explains why he sent for Peter
- **v 34 to 43** Peter realises that salvation is for non-Jews too. He then preaches some first-century beliefs to Cornelius and his household (see information)
- **v 44 to 48** While Peter is still speaking Cornelius and his household receive the Holy Spirit and are then baptised.

**Timeline** AD 60 (see below)

## Information

### First-century Christian beliefs

- **v 34 to 43** Peter preaches to a non-Jewish audience:
  - v 34 and 35 anyone who fears God and does what God regards as right is acceptable to him
  - v 36 God sent good news to Israel through Jesus
  - v 38 God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power enabling him to heal, for God was with him
  - v 39 the apostles were witnesses to all that Jesus did and to his death by the Jews
  - v 40 but God raised him from the dead
  - v 42 and 43 Jesus is to be judge and there is forgiveness of sins for those who believe



Peter's travels



**?** Questions & Answers

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 2, Q 2: v 34 and 35, Q 3: v 47



# Bible timeline

